

CHECKLIST FOR DEVELOPING LOCAL COMMERCIAL CANNABIS REGULATIONS

Has your state voted to legalize cannabis for medical or recreational use? Below are key considerations for local governments when beginning to develop their own policies.

- ❑ **Assess the context for your decisions.**
 - Understand what your state law allows local governments to regulate and note any key decision points.
 - Review local results on cannabis ballot measures for perspective on community opinion.
 - Talk with surrounding communities about your respective plans for regulating the industry.

- ❑ **Facilitate leadership, coordination, and communication.**
 - With your governing body, identify and articulate your motivations for allowing regulated commercial cannabis activities.
 - Assemble a team of staff representing the wide array of government functions impacted by commercial cannabis activities.

- ❑ **Plan for extensive community engagement.**
 - Even in communities thought to be pro-cannabis, anticipate uncertainty and fears about the issue.
 - Take time to meet with community members in various settings – formal and informal, in person and online.
 - Include cannabis industry representatives in your engagement.
 - Document your progress and consider posting on your website.

- ❑ **Regularly monitor indicators and review your regulations.**
 - Consider sunset provisions or other incremental measures requiring future extension or updates to your policies.
 - Check in with key staff liaisons for updates on public safety and health statistics, code complaints, revenues collected, applications received, and other metrics.

Learn more about commercial cannabis and what local impacts could affect your community by downloading the report at [icma.org/cannabis-report](https://www.icma.org/cannabis-report).